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COMMISSION EXTENDS PLEADING CYCLE FOR COMMENTS OR OPPOSITIONS TO PETITIONS FOR PROTECTION FROM WHIPSAWING ON THE U.S.-PHILIPPINES ROUTE

IB DOCKET NO. 03-38

New Comment Due Date: February 21,2003

By the Chief, Policy Division, International Bureau

On February 10,2003, the Commission released a Public Notice (DA 03-390) inviting comment on petitions filed by AT&T Corporation (AT&T) and WorldCom Inc. (WorldCom) requesting that the Commission take action to protect U.S.-international carriers and U.S. consumers from alleged "whipsawing" behavior occurring on the U.S.-Philippines route. Philippines Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT) has requested an extension of time to file comments from February 20,2003 to February 25,2003. Globe Telecom (Globe) and Verizon each have filed requests for an extension to February 24,2003.

In view of the recent inclement weather and closure of the Commission on February 18, 2003, the date for filing comments and oppositions is extended to February 21, 2003. The date for filing reply comments will remain February 27,2003.

Accordingly, pursuant to Sections 1.1 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R.§ 1.1, the new comment due date is February 21,2003. Instructions for filing pleadings in this proceeding are set forth in the Public Notice (DA 03-390), available on the Commission's website **at** www.fcc.gov.

For further information, contact: James Ball, Chief, or Lisa Choi, Senior Legal Advisor, Policy Division, at (202) 418-1460.